

6LB. Special Continuous Distributions

- Uniform Distribution
- Exponential Distribution
- Gamma Distribution
- Chi-Square Distribution
- Normal Distribution
- $E(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xf(x)dx$, $Var(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - E(X))^2 dx$,
- $\varphi(t) = E(e^{tX}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tx} f(x)dx$,
- $E(X) = \varphi'(0)$, $Var(X) = \varphi''(0) - [\varphi'(0)]^2$
- Beta Distribution

Uniform Distribution $U(a,b)$, $U(0,1)$

7.1 on P.279, P.280

Suppose that X is the value of the random point selected from an interval (a, b) . *Then X is called a uniform random variable over (a, b) .* Then *distribution function* F and *probability density function* f are given below.

$$F(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & t \leq a \\ \frac{t - a}{b - a} & a < t < b \\ 1 & t \geq b \end{cases}$$

Therefore,

$f(t) = \frac{1}{b-a}$ if $a < t < b$, and $f(t) = 0$ otherwise. $U(0,1)$ is very common in applications.

$X \sim U(a,b)$ and $X \sim U(0,1)$

- $E(X) = \int_a^b x \frac{1}{b-a} dx = \frac{a+b}{2}$.
- $E(X^2) = \int_a^b x^2 \frac{1}{b-a} dx = \frac{1}{3}(a^2 + ab + b^2)$.
- $\text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - [E(X)]^2 = \frac{1}{3}(a^2 + ab + b^2) - \left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{(b-a)^2}{12}$.
- In particular, when $a = 0, b = 1$, we have
- $E(X) = \frac{1}{2}, \text{Var}(X) = \frac{1}{12}$.

7.2 Normal Random Variables $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$

7.2 on P.285

The probability density function f and its distribution function F of a normal random variable X with mean μ and variance σ^2 has the following properties.

$$(a) f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(x-\mu)^2/2\sigma^2}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty, \text{ denote as } X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

$$(b) F(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t f(x) dx, \quad -\infty < t < \infty$$

If $\mu = 0$, $\sigma^2 = 1$, $N(0,1)$ is called the standard normal distribution.

In this case, we used to use φ for f and Φ for F .

$$X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2) \text{ then } Z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} \sim N(0, 1)$$

- (a) $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ then $Z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} \sim N(0, 1)$
- (b) $Z \sim N(0, 1)$, then $X = \mu + \sigma Z \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$
- If $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$, then $E(X) = \mu$, $\text{Var}(X) = \sigma^2$, and
- $\varphi(t) = E(e^{tX}) = e^{\mu t + \frac{\sigma^2 t^2}{2}}$ (moment – generating function)

Figures of Normal Distributions

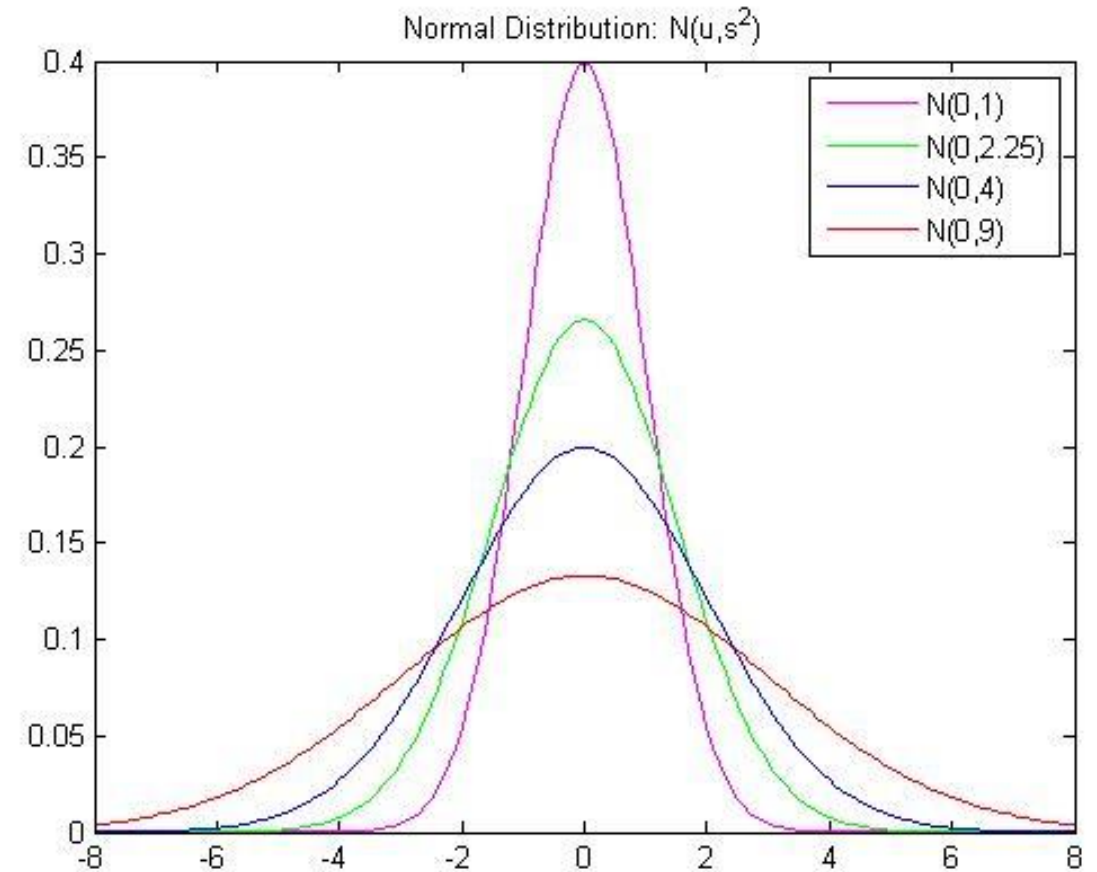
p.d.f. $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi s^2}} e^{-(x-u)^2 / 2s^2}$, $-\infty < x < \infty$

Normal Distribution $X \sim N(u, s^2)$

$E(X) = u$ and $\text{Var}(X) = s^2$

Moment-Generating Function $\varphi(t) = e^{ut + \frac{s^2 t^2}{2}}$

```
X=-8:0.1:8;  
Y1=normpdf(X,0,1);  
Y2=normpdf(X,0,1.5);  
Y3=normpdf(X,0,2);  
Y4=normpdf(X,0,3);  
plot(X,Y1,'m-',X,Y2,'g-',X,Y3,'b-',X,Y4,'r-');  
legend('N(0,1)', 'N(0,2.25)', 'N(0,4)', 'N(0,9)')  
Title('Normal Distribution: N(u,s^2)')
```



7.3 Exponential Random Variables X: $\lambda e^{-\lambda x}$

7.3 on P.299

The probability density function f and its distribution function F of an exponential random variable X with mean $1/\lambda$ and variance $1/\lambda^2$ has the following properties:

(a) $f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}, x \geq 0.$

(b) $F(x) = \int_0^x f(t) dt = 1 - e^{-\lambda x}, \text{ for any } x \geq 0.$

An alternative form by using $\theta = \frac{1}{\lambda}$ commonly appears in many textbooks; that is $f(x) = \frac{1}{\theta} e^{-x/\theta}, x \geq 0.$

Figures of Exponential Distributions

p.d.f. $f(x) = \frac{1}{\theta} e^{-x/\theta}$, $x \geq 0$

Exponential Distribution $X \sim \text{Exp}(\theta)$

$E(X) = \theta$ and $\text{Var}(X) = \theta^2$

Moment-Generating Function $\varphi_X(t) = \frac{1}{1 - \theta t}$

$X = 0:0.2:8$;

$Y1 = \text{exp pdf}(X, 1)$;

$Y2 = \text{exp pdf}(X, 2)$;

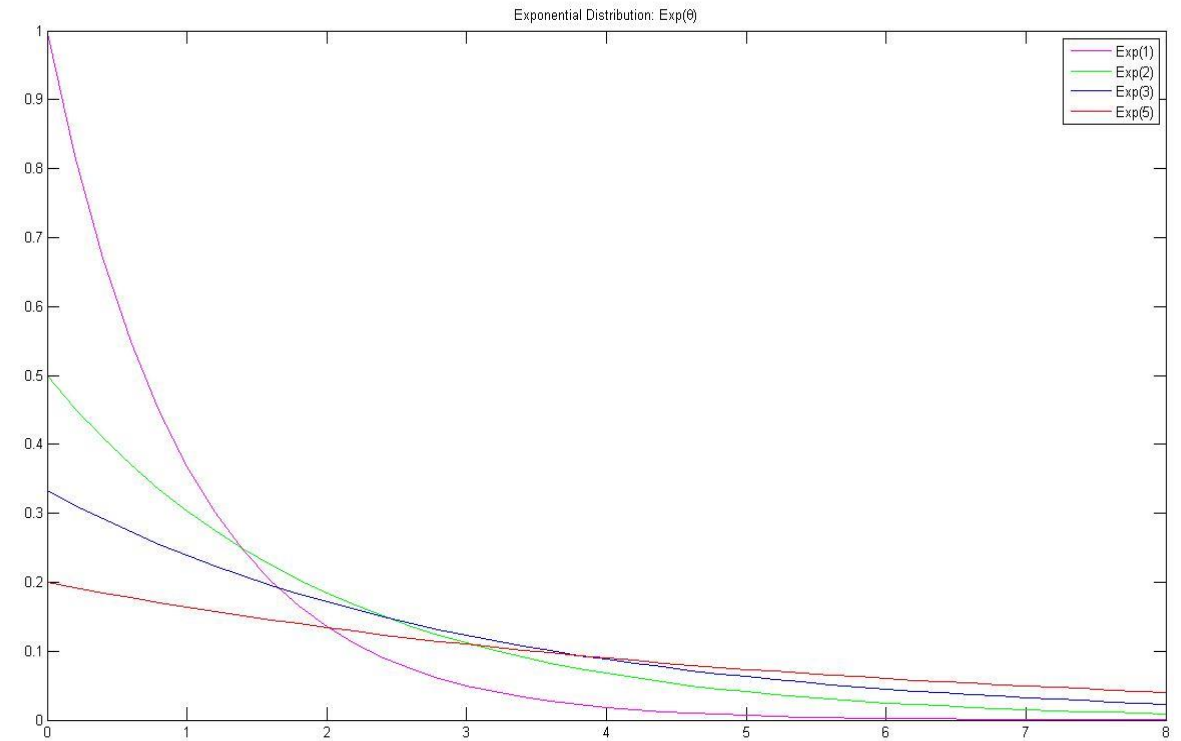
$Y3 = \text{exp pdf}(X, 3)$;

$Y4 = \text{exp pdf}(X, 5)$;

$\text{plot}(X, Y1, 'm-', X, Y2, 'g-', X, Y3, 'b-', X, Y4, 'r-')$;

$\text{legend}('Exp(1)', 'Exp(2)', 'Exp(3)', 'Exp(5)')$

$\text{Title}('Exponential Distribution: Exp(\theta)')$



7.4 Gamma Distributions on P.306

Let $\{N(t): t \geq 0\}$ be a Poisson process, X_1 be the time of the first event, and X_n the time between *the* $(n - 1)$ *st and* n *th events*. As explained previously, $\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$ is a sequence of identically distributed exponential random variables with mean $1/\lambda$, where λ is the rate of $\{N(t): t \geq 0\}$. For this Poisson process, let X be the time of n *th* event. Then X is said to have a gamma distribution with parameters (n, λ) . Therefore, *exponential* is the time will wait for the first time to occur, and *gamma* will be the time we will wait for the n *th* event to occur.

$$F(t) = P(X \leq t) = P(N(t) \geq n) = \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-\lambda t} (\lambda t)^i}{i!}$$

Figures of Gamma Distributions

p.d.f. $f(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)\theta^\alpha} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-x/\theta}$, $0 < x < \infty$

Gamma Distribution $X \sim \Gamma(\alpha, \theta)$,

$E(X) = \alpha\theta$, $\text{Var}(X) = \alpha\theta^2$

Moment-Generating Function $\varphi_X(t) = \frac{1}{(1-\theta t)^\alpha}$

$X = 0.1:0.2:12$;

$Y1 = \text{gampdf}(X, 1, 4)$;

$Y2 = \text{gampdf}(X, 2, 3)$;

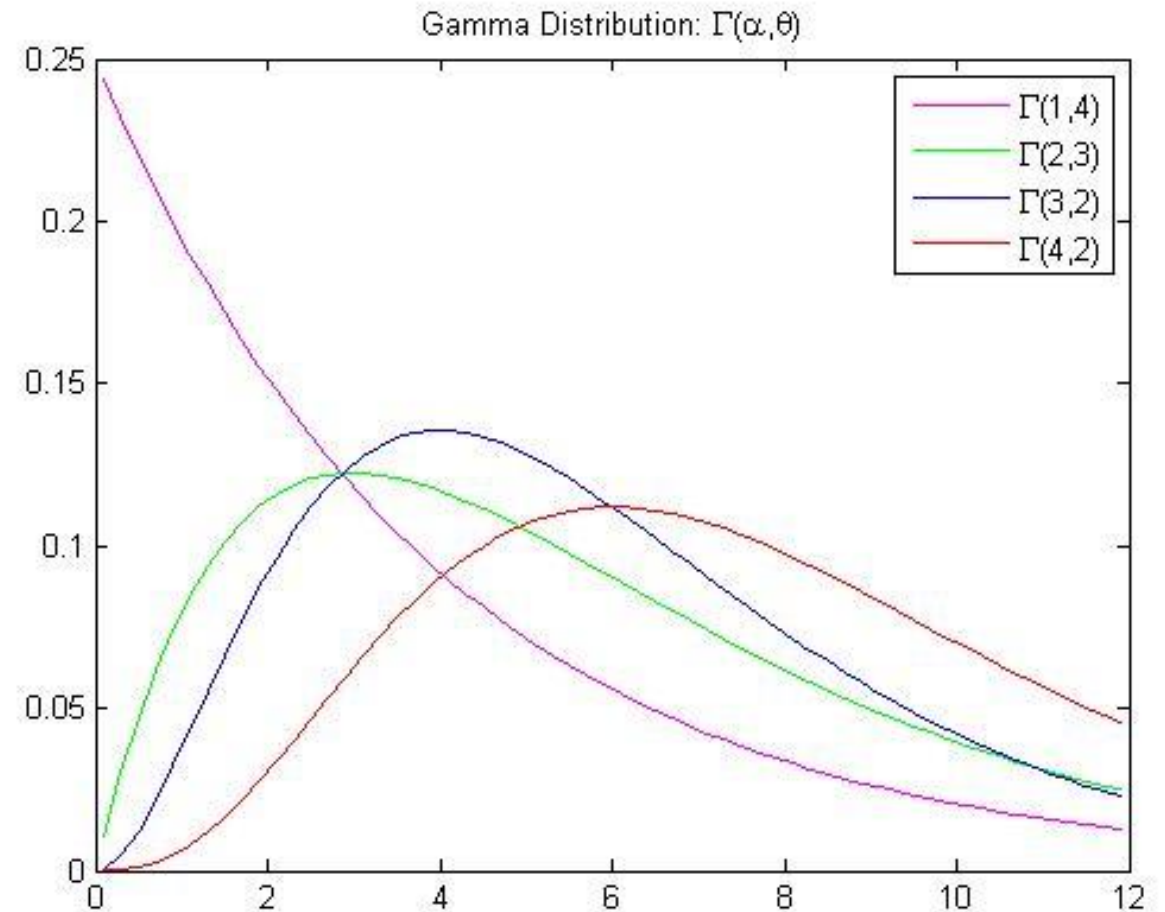
$Y3 = \text{gampdf}(X, 3, 2)$;

$Y4 = \text{gampdf}(X, 4, 2)$;

$\text{plot}(X, Y1, 'm-', X, Y2, 'g-', X, Y3, 'b-', X, Y4, 'r-')$;

$\text{legend}(\backslash\text{Gamma}(1,4)', \backslash\text{Gamma}(2,3)', \dots$
 $\backslash\text{Gamma}(3,2)', \backslash\text{Gamma}(4,2)')$

$\text{title}(\text{'Gamma Distribution: \Gamma(\alpha, \theta)'})$



$\chi^2(r)$ distribution with r degrees of freedom

- $X \sim \chi^2(r)$ distribution with r degrees of freedom has the p.d.f.

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(r/2)2^{r/2}} x^{(r/2)-1} e^{-x/2}, \quad 0 < x < \infty$$

- where the gamma function is defined as $\Gamma(x) = \int_0^\infty e^{-t} t^{x-1} dt$.
- χ^2 distribution is a special case of gamma distribution with parameters $\theta \equiv 2$, and $\alpha = \frac{r}{2}$, where r is a positive integer.
- Furthermore if $X \sim N(0,1)$, $Y = X^2$ has a Chi-square distribution with 1 degree of freedom, that is, $Y \sim \chi^2(1)$.

Figures of $\chi^2(r)$ Distributions

$$\text{p.d.f. } f(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(r/2)2^{r/2}} x^{(r/2)-1} e^{-x/2}, \quad 0 < x < \infty$$

Chi-Square Distribution $X \sim \chi^2(r)$,

$$E(X) = r, \quad \text{Var}(X) = 2r$$

$$\text{Moment-Generating Function } \varphi_X(t) = \frac{1}{(1-2t)^{r/2}}$$

$X = 0.1:0.2:12$;

$Y1 = \text{chi2pdf}(X, 2)$;

$Y2 = \text{chi2pdf}(X, 3)$;

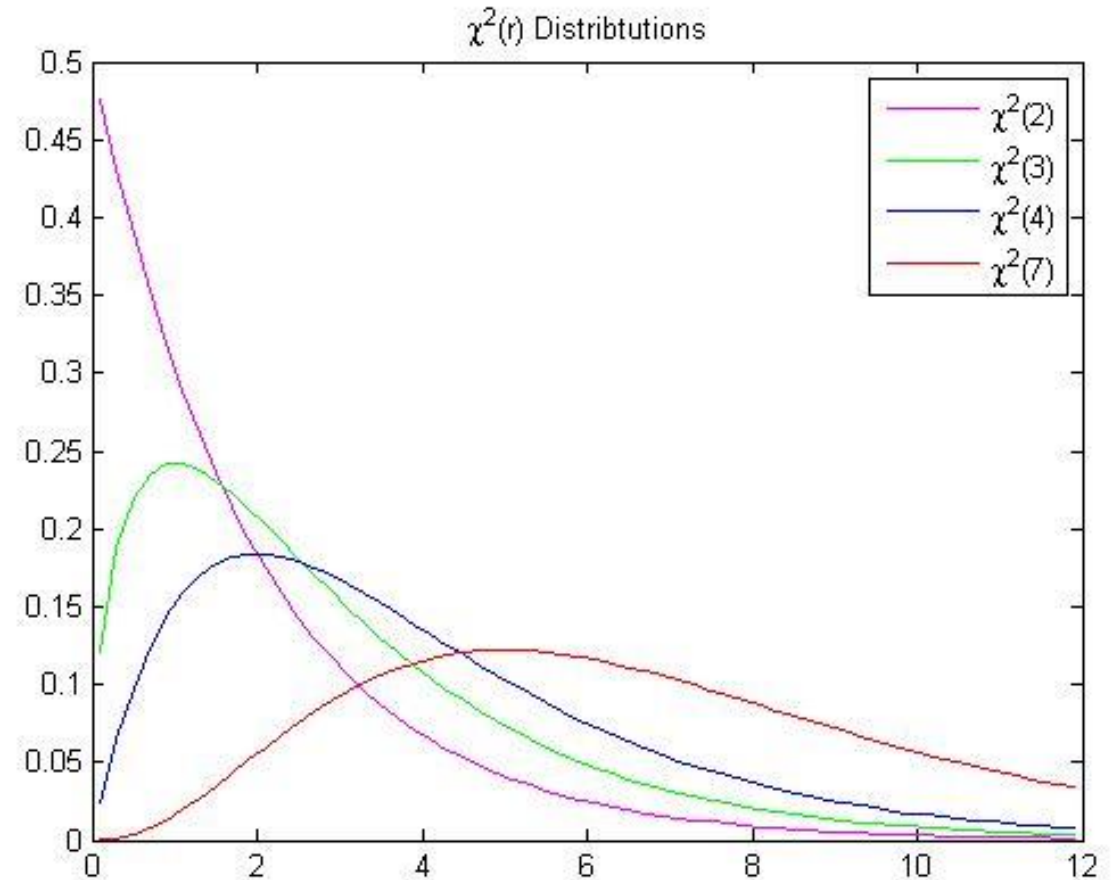
$Y3 = \text{chi2pdf}(X, 4)$;

$Y4 = \text{chi2pdf}(X, 7)$;

$\text{plot}(X, Y1, 'm-', X, Y2, 'g-', X, Y3, 'b-', X, Y4, 'r-')$;

$\text{legend}('\chi^2(2)', '\chi^2(3)', '\chi^2(4)', '\chi^2(7)')$

$\text{title}('\chi^2(r) \text{ Distributions}')$



Beta Distributions

p.d.f. $f(x) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)} x^{\alpha-1}(1-x)^{\beta-1}$, $0 < x < 1$

Beta Distribution $X \sim \text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta)$,

$E(X) = \alpha/(\alpha + \beta)$, $\text{Var}(X) = \alpha\beta/[(\alpha + \beta)^2(\alpha + \beta + 1)]$

Moment-Generating Function $M_X(t) = N/A$

$X = 0:0.02:1$;

$a=2$; $b=5$; $Y1 = \text{betapdf}(X,a,b)$;

$a=3$; $b=8$; $Y2 = \text{betapdf}(X,a,b)$;

$a=4$; $b=4$; $Y3 = \text{betapdf}(X,a,b)$;

$a=9$; $b=2$; $Y4 = \text{betapdf}(X,a,b)$;

`plot(X,Y1,'r-',X,Y2,'g-',X,Y3,'b-',X,Y4,'m-')`;

`legend('(2,5)','(3,8)','(4,4)','(9,2)',2)`

`xlabel('x \in [0,1]')`

`ylabel('Beta p.d.f.')`

`title('Beta Distribution: Beta(a,b)')`

